

Town Hall Meeting: 5:30 p.m., August 6 Club Stewart, Hunter Club

See page 7A for more information and previous Town Hall notes

THE FRONTLINE

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Serving the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities • www.stewart.army.mil

Postpartum PT keeps Soldiers
Army Strong
See Page 1C



JULY 30, 2009

Stewart-Hunter win CINC Award



Kaytrina Curtis

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield military and civilian leaders along with Georgia state senate representatives, local civic and community leaders, accept the 25th anniversary Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence and an Installation Excellence flag during a special ceremony held at the Pentagon, July 22. **See Page 2A.**

POVs require DOD decals

Kevin M. Larson
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield officials are urging drivers to update their Department of Defense vehicle registrations.

The Stewart-Hunter Directorate of Emergency Services are advising Soldiers, Family Members, Army Civilians, and contract employees that they have until Sept. 8 to correct any issues with their vehicles' registrations. Installation police will begin issuing tickets on Sept. 9 to drivers who have expired regis-

trations. Drivers may also have to get a temporary vehicle pass or may be denied access to the installation if their registration is not in order.

Vehicles belonging to Soldiers (including allied officers) and their Family Members, Army Civilians, or contract employees affiliated with Stewart-Hunter must register their privately owned vehicles, per Army regulation. Vehicles can be registered by visiting the vehicle registration office in room 2064 at the Soldier Service Center, building 253, Stewart's Gate # 1, or Hunter's Wilson and Montgomery gates.

See DECAL

Page 7A

293rd MP Co in final prep for Afghanistan

Spc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd Sustainment Bde. Public Affairs

As the time grows closer toward deployment, the Soldiers of the 293rd Military Police Company, 385th Military Police Battalion, stand in mass formation one last time for their friends and Families before they deploy to Afghanistan, July 24.

The 150 Soldiers are slated to head to Afghanistan and help train Afghani armed forces and police.

"These warriors will help bring freedom and democratic principles to Afghanistan where chaos has reigned,"

said Lt. Col. Chris Henshaw, commander of the 385th MP Bn. "The 293rd MP Co., Warriors, will help provide training and other important infrastructure services to rebuild the war-torn nation."

The past five months have been spent training for their upcoming mission, said Lt. Col. Henshaw. Their training has been rough but thorough.

Training such as individual training, combat life saving, team certification, squad collective training, IED defensive training, and convoy live fire are just a few of things every member of the Warrior team went through in preparation for deployment.

See MP

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Spartans prepare for deployment

Pfc. Crystal M. O'Neal
2HBCT Public Affairs

When duty calls in the combat zone, U.S. Soldiers must be prepared to pack up, ship out, and carry out the mission.

Here at 3rd Infantry Division, Soldiers train throughout the year in garrison so that they will be fully prepared when it is time to go to the fight.

Second Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd ID Soldiers, have been training diligently year-round, and now that they are scheduled to go to the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif. to train for their upcoming deployment.

Spartan Soldiers throughout their area of operation have been very busy all week.

Second HBCT Soldiers have been getting it done, from packing and loading their gear and equipment to getting immunizations and medical screenings.

All Soldiers received a packing list from their noncommissioned officers instructing them exactly what they would need while training at NTC.

All the battalions in the brigade packed their bags and prepared to load them, but not before they were inspected by NCOs, July 23.

See SPARTANS

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Pfc. Gregory Gieske

Making sure his vision is up to par in preparation for training at Fort Irwin, Calif., Pvt. Michael Holland, 3/7 CAV, 2nd HBCT, 3rd ID, undergoes an eye exam at the Mower Processing Center on Fort Stewart, July 23.



Get ready to go
BACK TO SCHOOL!
See page 9A

**Happy 219th Birthday
Coast Guard!**
See Page 3A

Gate access
control to improve
on installation
Page 2A



Fort Stewart-Hunter wins CINC award for fourth time

Kaytrina Curtis
Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs

WASHINGTON D.C.— Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield's military officials and local civic and community leaders brought home the proverbial Army gold for the fourth time during a ceremony held in the Pentagon's auditorium, July 22.

The newly re-designed Commander-in-Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence, resembles a pillar or pyramid in shape and has come to be associated with timelessness, which replaced the large wooden trophy that represented built environments. The crystal composition of the re-designed award represents the strength and clear vision of the winning installation's resource management capabilities. Winning installations also received an Installation Excellence flag, and a letter signed by the President complimenting the winners for their exceptional accomplishments.

Twenty-five years ago, President Ronald Regan instituted the CINC award. An installation in each branch of the Armed Forces, to include the Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, is identified for

exemplary actions taken by the Command with the use of its resources. Five installations received the esteemed award for their positive impact of leadership, commitment and service at every level. In a special letter to the honorees dated May 6, President Barack Obama said the winning installations are recognized as the "best of the best."

"Your excellence exceeds all standards," President Obama wrote. "As our Nation faces great challenges in the years to come, we will count on your continued leadership to meet the needs of our troops and their Families."

As a distinguished Army Community of Excellence award winning installation, Stewart-Hunter continues to strive to be the best the Army has to offer.

"The senior commander and the entire garrison team are always looking for ways to improve quality of life for our Soldiers and Family Members," Stewart Garrison Commander, Col. Kevin Milton said. "We are currently exploring several new services for Soldiers and Family Members. Once we have funding for these initiatives, I will be glad to share them with our customers."

Third Infantry Division Commander Maj. Gen.

Tony Cucolo proudly accepted the award on behalf of the installation, a place he referred to as home in his acceptance speech.

"Home is just a word to Soldiers and their Families, unless there is a feeling of warmth, welcome and care behind it," he said. "We are blessed to have the most supportive community that I have seen in the 30 years of my service in Liberty County, Bryan County, Chatham County, and all the surrounding counties of coastal Georgia."

Colonel Milton agreed with Maj. Gen. Cucolo's sentiments, noting assuredly that "(the surrounding communities) will continue to take great care of our Soldiers and Family Members and continue to provide selfless support to all Soldiers and Family Members in the future."

The other services that also took home awards were from Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.; Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan and Hurlburt Field, Fla.; and the Defense Distribution Depot, San Joaquin, Calif.

Stewart-Hunter takes pride in being a Community of Excellence, which has resulted in the installation being the southern living station of choice.

1,100 schools sign new GI Bill pact

Army News Service

WASHINGTON D.C.—More than 1,100 colleges, universities and schools across the country have entered into "Yellow Ribbon" program agreements with the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve financial aid for veterans participating in the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

The new GI Bill will normally fund tuition up to the level of the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. The Yellow Ribbon program funds tuition expenses at private

schools that exceed that rate. Institutions can contribute up to 50 percent of those expenses, and VA will match this additional funding for eligible students.

More than 3,400 agreements were received from the 1,100 schools participating in the Yellow Ribbon program.

"This is a strong response to a new benefit," said Keith Wilson, director of VA's Education Service. "We are pleased so many institutions are supporting our veterans."

"The Post-9/11 GI Bill is an important part of fulfilling our promise to

the men and women who have served our country so honorably," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. "Implementing this landmark legislation and providing even more veterans with a quality education is a top priority for VA. We are grateful so many schools are joining us as partners in this unprecedented effort."

The Yellow Ribbon program is reserved for veterans eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill at the 100 percent benefit level. This includes those who served at least 36 months on active duty or served at least 30 con-

tinuous days and were discharged due to a service-related injury.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill, passed by Congress last year, is the most extensive educational assistance program authorized since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944.

The maximum benefit allows every eligible veteran, servicemember, reserve and National Guard member an opportunity to receive an in-state, undergraduate education at a public institution at no cost.

For more information on transferring GI Bill benefits, see the article in today's Frontline on page 10A.

Gate access control to improve on installation

Directorate of Public Works
Engineering Services Division

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and Wright Army Airfield residents can expect to see increased construction activity at the gates through 2010 as the Army Corps of Engineers vie to improve the access control methods at all entrances to the installation.

"This is in keeping with our obligation to maintain the highest level of protection and security for our Soldiers, Families, and Civilian employees," said Matthew R. Bolen, project manager.

"You will begin to see changes when you enter

Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield or Wright Army Airfield. Gate upgrades have begun with Gate 9 at Wright Army Airfield and Gate 2 at Fort Stewart," he said. "These infrastructure upgrades will continue at each gate at Fort Stewart and two gates at Hunter Army Airfield until all are completed in June 2010. These improvements will include new canopies, new guard booths, new generators, and advanced electrical/data capabilities."

According to Bolen, these updates will pave the way for automated equipment that will be installed during the second phase of the project which will start in July 2010 and run through January 2012.

Once the automated equipment is fully opera-

tional, it will enhance the identification process with the ability to recognize and deny access to unauthorized personnel or vehicles, according to Bolen.

The schedule of the gate construction coincides with traffic data, and is scheduled to have the least impact on traffic as possible. However, gates under construction could experience some minor traffic delays. Access control gates being upgraded will have traffic signs posted and visible to motorists. Since partial lane closures will be necessary at certain times, Bolen advises motorists to enter and exit these gates safely and carefully.

"We appreciate your patience during this construction effort," Bolen concluded.



Dr. Judith Brown
Fort Stewart Museum

The 3rd Infantry Division is famed for its conduct at the Battle of the Marne from July 15-18, 1918. Less well known are its actions afterwards. Ninety-one years ago this week, it was fighting in the Allied counteroffensive that began July 19. It continued to fight even after July 29, when it was supposed to be relieved for two weeks.

On July 19, the Germans had begun a northward withdrawal from the 3rd Division's section of the Marne battleground. On July 21, the 4th Infantry began to pursue the Germans. It crossed the Marne at Château-Thierry and occupied the town of Mont St. Père to protect the rest of the division as it crossed the river. At the same time, 3rd Division engineers built a pontoon bridge across the Marne to replace one destroyed at Mézy and a 7th Infantry battalion crossed by boat. By noon on July 22, much of the division was over the river and through the village of Chartèves. That day it also took the town of Jaulgonne, about a mile up the road. The next village, another half-mile north, was Le Charmel. As the Division advanced, the troops found themselves isolated and ahead of the forces at their sides, so withdrew back to Jaulgonne.

For the next three days, the 3rd

Division took part in a little-known but important struggle with the retreating Germans between Jaulgonne and Le Charmel. The Germans fought for time to withdraw the huge quantities of supplies and ammunition they had brought to the front but not used at the Marne.

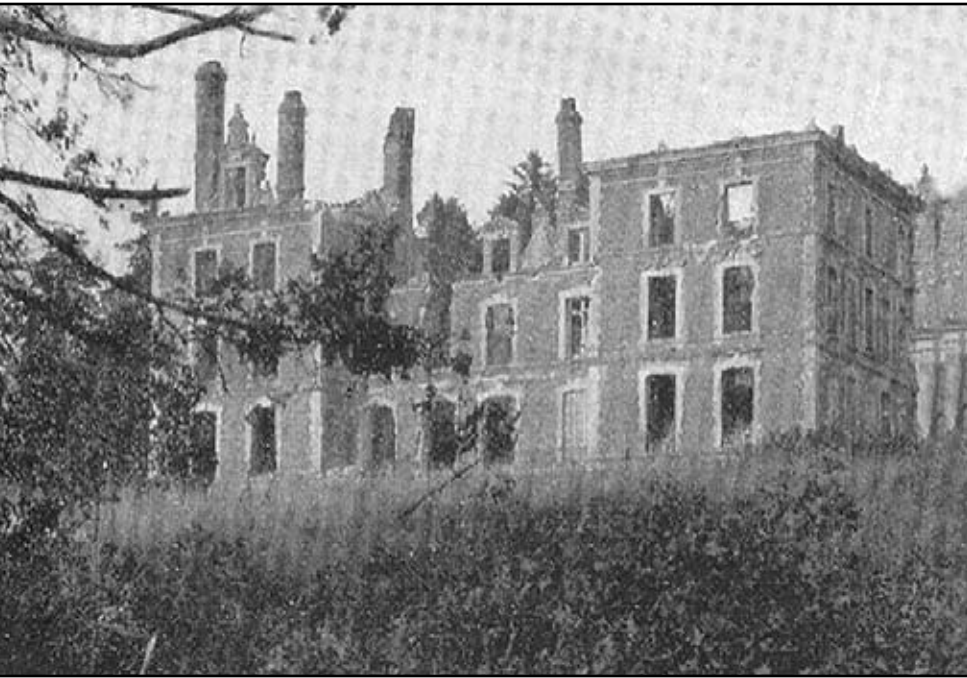
They stubbornly defended both the town of Le Charmel and its château; the 3rd Division captured the town on July 27 and finally took the now badly damaged Château on the July 27.

The delay at Le Charmel gave the Germans time to set up a strong defense in the valley of the Ourcq River, northeast of Le Charmel. They stood a mile north of the town of Ronchères in the Bois de Grimettes, which commanded both that town and the village of Courmont in the 28th Division's sector to the 3rd ID's left.

The 3rd Division took Ronchères on the 28th, but could get no farther. On July 28-29, it attacked the Bois from the right and the 28th Division from the left, but the Germans held. The night of July 29-30, the 32nd Division relieved the 3rd Division for what was supposed to be a badly-needed two-week rest period.

In the 15 days since the Battle of the Marne began, it had suffered nearly 6,600 casualties, one quarter of its strength.

The Division didn't get to rest. The Bois finally fell on July 30; while in



Courtesy Photo

The 3rd Infantry Division captured Le Charmel Chateau in Le Charmel, France, July 17, 1918, following the Battle of the Marne.

reserve, the 3rd Division had to follow the 32nd Division to the next objective. This was the town of Fismes, about 15 miles further north and about halfway between the historic cities of Soissons and Reims. This whole area, except Reims itself, had been captured by the Germans in their May 1918 offensive. Now it was fought over again. It took the 32nd Division until Aug. 2 to get to Fismes and until Aug. 4 to take it; it

could do no more. So the Army turned to the 3rd Division. After only a week of rest, the 3rd Division's 6th Brigade (30th and 38th Infantry Regiments) was returned to the line Aug. 6. Despite repeated attacks, it prevented the Germans from recapturing Fismes. When the brigade was relieved again Aug. 11, it had lost another 600 officers and men. But it had not retreated—it was still the "Rock" of the U.S. Army.

Happy 219th Birthday Coast Guard!

U.S. Coast Guard has long, proud history

Nancy Gould
Hunter Public Affairs

The United States Coast Guard, one of the country's five Armed Services, is a unique agency of the Federal government. Its history can be traced back to Aug. 4, 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of ten vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws and prevent smuggling. Known throughout the 19th and early 20th century as the Revenue Marine and the Revenue Cutter Service, it expanded in size and responsibilities as the nation grew.

The service received its present name in 1915 under an act of Congress when the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the Life-Saving Service. At that time, the nation had a single maritime service dedicated to saving lives at sea and enforcing the nation's maritime laws. The Coast Guard began maintaining the country's aids to maritime navigation, including the operation of national lighthouses, when President Franklin Roosevelt

ordered the transfer of the Lighthouse Service to the Coast Guard in 1939. In 1946, Congress permanently transferred the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation to the Coast Guard, placing merchant marine licensing and merchant vessel safety under the Coast Guard's purview.

The Coast Guard is one of the oldest organizations of the federal government and, until the Navy Department was established in 1798, it served as the nation's only Armed Force afloat. It has continued to protect the nation throughout its long history and has served proudly in every one of the nation's conflicts. National defense responsibilities remain one of the most important functions of the Coast Guard today. In times of peace, it operates as part of the Department of Homeland Security, serving as the nation's front-line agency to enforce laws at sea, protect the marine environment and the nation's vast coastline and ports, and save lives. In times of war, or at the direction of the president, it serves under the Navy Department.



Courtesy Photos

Coast Guardsmen from Air Station Savannah fly in all weather.

"THE GUARDIAN ETHOS"

I AM AMERICA'S MARITIME GUARDIAN.
I SERVE THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES.
I WILL PROTECT THEM.
I WILL DEFEND THEM.
I WILL SAVE THEM.
I AM THEIR SHIELD.
FOR THEM I AM SEMPER PARATUS.
I LIVE THE COAST GUARD CORE VALUES.
I AM A GUARDIAN.

WE ARE THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

U.S. Coast Guard turns 219

Nancy Gould
Hunter Public Affairs
Ensign Lucas Elder
USCG Marine Safety Unit Savannah

Coast Guard members worldwide will pause from their busy schedules Aug. 4 to celebrate the United States Coast Guard's birthday — the oldest, continuous sea-going service in the United States. Here in Savannah, three Coast Guard units — Tybee Air Station Savannah, Savannah's Marine Safety Office and Air Station Savannah, located on Hunter Army Airfield — will join the celebration.

They'll start early with competitive kickball; later, Coasties and their Family Members will move to Hunter Club and Hunter Outdoor Pool and Spray Park to spend the afternoon visiting with one another, grilling out and cooling off in the water.

Commander Nick Bartolotta, executive officer, Air Station Savannah, said Coast Guard men and women are proud of their long, rich heritage and they look forward to celebrating it together. Bartolotta said he's proud to be a Coast Guard member.

"The best part is helping others and giving back to tax payers in this community," he said.

On any one day nationally, Bartolotta said that the Coast Guard will:

- save 15 lives
- assist 114 people in distress
- protect \$4.9 million in property
- interdict 26 illegal migrants at sea
- conduct 82 search and rescue cases
- seize \$2.4 million worth of illegal drugs
- conduct 23 waterfront facility

safety or security inspections

- respond to 11 oil and hazardous chemical spills
- board 202 vessels of law enforcement interests

Air Station Savannah

Since 1963, Air Station Savannah has conducted an annual average of 250 Search and Rescue missions, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year over 450 miles of shoreline on the Atlantic coast, from the northern border of South Carolina to Melbourne, Florida.

Coast Guard Station Tybee

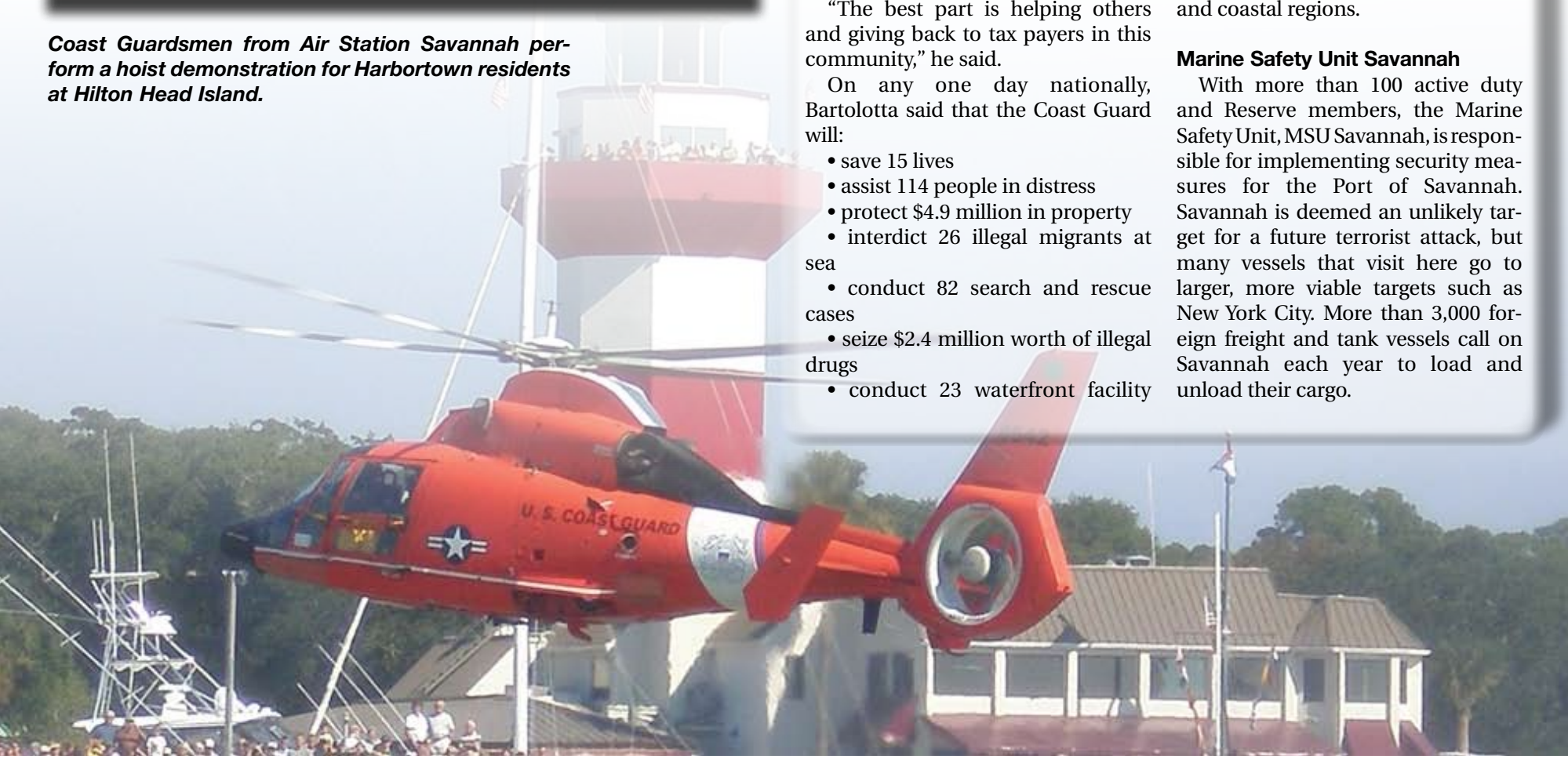
Since 1983 Station Tybee has guarded the mouth of the Savannah River Entrance from its location north of Tybee Island, located east of downtown Savannah. Prior to that, it was located at the Tybee Island Light House. It shares property with the Fort Pulaski National Monument. The overarching mission of the 28 Coast Guard men and women is their SAR and Law Enforcements missions, which contributes to the safety and security of citizens, ports, waterways and coastal regions.

Marine Safety Unit Savannah

With more than 100 active duty and Reserve members, the Marine Safety Unit, MSU Savannah, is responsible for implementing security measures for the Port of Savannah. Savannah is deemed an unlikely target for a future terrorist attack, but many vessels that visit here go to larger, more viable targets such as New York City. More than 3,000 foreign freight and tank vessels call on Savannah each year to load and unload their cargo.

Coast Guard Air Station Savannah HH-65C Dolphin helicopter practices hoist operations. The HH-65C Dolphins have been replaced with MH-65C, an upgraded aircraft that allows guardsmen to perform their mission more efficiently.

Coast Guardsmen from Air Station Savannah perform a hoist demonstration for Harbortown residents at Hilton Head Island.



BARRACK'S LIFE: Deployment can be financial opportunity

Spc. Michael Adams
3rd ID Public Affairs

Third Infantry Division and tenant units are going through another cycle of deployments. Many Soldiers who are deploying will see combat for the first time. While deployments will present challenges, it will also present many opportunities.

One of the biggest opportunities involves the pay one will be receiving. In a combat zone, troops will get significantly more in their paychecks than they would if they remained stateside.

A number of servicemembers returning from deployment spend a lot of their money while they are downrange or

immediately after they return. Maybe this isn't the smartest thing. Instead of spending money on a short-term gain like a car or a big screen TV, it might be wiser to invest or save the money for your future.

Saving your money could be good for many reasons. You might be single now, but that could change. You could be married and have children one day soon after you get back. When there is a Family to support, and you have that expensive car you bought when you got back, you might seriously regret having made that purchase.

When I look back at my first job, I got



paid around \$450 on my first paycheck. I spent half of it that day.

Looking back on it, I don't have a use for anything I bought then. I can't even remember what I bought! But I was young, and I didn't understand how important saving was.

That was very different from what I did when I got back from Korea where I was able to save a lot of money. When I came back to the States, there was plenty of money to visit my Family, have a nice vacation for myself, and I had money for a very necessary purchase — a car.

I didn't go get a BMW or a Corvette. I

got a nice, reasonably priced car that did nothing more than get me around.

While on deployment, Soldiers will have an opportunity to participate in the Military Savings Deposit Program. This program gives Soldiers a chance to deposit money into a tax -free savings account while downrange. It will accrue 10 percent a year. This will give many Soldiers a golden opportunity to save some money while they're in a deployed setting.

Single Soldiers will have many opportunities while in combat to develop professionally and personally.

More importantly, if they are smart with their money, they will have perhaps the biggest opportunity they will get to improve financially.

Spartan Soldiers, Families prep for deployment

Spc. Dustin Gautney
2HBCT Public Affairs

Hundreds of 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers along with their spouses and children filled Fort Stewart's post chapel.

The sounds of chatter and children's laughter break into cool silence as various representatives from Fort Stewart Family Services, varying from legal services to weather safety, better prepare Families for deployment.

The Family readiness meetings, which have been carried out throughout the month of July, have been designed to educate Soldiers and spouses on the various services available to them, especially while their loved one is deployed.

"It is absolutely imperative that Families receive this

information," said Chester 'Bo' Bradley, Army Community Services, and combat veteran.

Bradley said the information could help take some burden off deployed Soldiers knowing that their loved ones will be taken care of while they are away."

Bradley also said that many young Soldiers and spouses are not aware of the many services that are available to them, including the Family Readiness Group.

"The FRG is a fantastic conduit for Soldiers and Spouses as well as for single Soldiers as an outlet to get information to their Families back home," Bradley said.

For many Soldiers in the audience, the deployment will be their first time away from their spouses; however, they were pleased to know that their Families will be taken care of at Fort Stewart.

Community Mayors' Minute

Kara Casto
Community Liaison Office

Garbage. We all have it. But what do you do with it? No matter where you live, on post or off, you should recycle. In fact, it's mandatory on post!

Recycling in the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield housing

areas is easy though and doesn't take any additional effort. 'Comingled recycling' means that you can put all recyclable materials in a single container for collection.

Be sure to visit the Team Stewart Web site at www.stewart.army.mil and click on Directorates/Public Works for

some good information on waste disposal.

If you have additional questions, you can call 408-2466 at Stewart or 459-2147 at Hunter.

But what about your garbage that can't be recycled?

What about the smelly kind that attracts maggot-breeding flies? In the southern climate

with high heat and high humidity, your outdoor garbage receptacle can become infested fast!

Here are a few tips to help combat these and other pests.

1. Double bag your trash. The second bag helps close any small tears or openings that flies can enter.

2. Keep your trash receptacles

clean. Try bleach or borax to clean that unidentified "yuck" from the interior.

3. Work with your neighbor. In many areas, neighbors' trash cans sit side-by-side.

If you notice that your neighbor is having a problem with flies, share these tips and work together to combat the pests!

Teen talks about what teens need

Chernel Jones
HIRED! CI Apprentice

There are so many things going on in the world with us teenagers today- relationships, music, technology, school, etc. I think if we didn't have technology, the world would be a lot different because I know teenagers can't live without our cell phones. That's the biggest thing.

Another thing is computers because if we don't have our cell phones, then we can at least contact each other on the computer. We also have to have our iPods because we can't live without music. Music is our everything. Music can make us happy but also sad.

Another big thing with teenagers is relationships. It seems like people go through so much with relationships. You want everything to go right and most importantly, you want to be happy.

We also go through a lot with school. Our grades have to be good. We have to keep a good GPA in order to get into a good college. We also have to follow the rules and wear uniforms, even though most of us don't want to follow the rules or wear uniforms. We have to do those things in order to get through school.

Almost every teenager wants piercings



and tattoos. I think people get tattoos to express themselves and piercings are something everybody wants to have.

Another big thing with teens is fashion. We all want shoes and clothes. Everybody wants the best shoes like Jordans, Air Forces, Vans, Sperry's, Polo's, etc. We all want the best clothes because clothes express who we are. Clothes and shoes are important to us besides technology, music, etc.

Last but not least, teenagers have to have a car. That's like our dream. Every teenager wants a car because with your own car, you can go anywhere you

want to go and just go places with your friends.

You don't have to worry about asking your parents to take you here and pick you up or asking your friends that already have cars to take you somewhere.

The worst thing is you have to wait a year and a day to get your license and nobody wants to wait that long to get their license.

We all want the best and these are things that goes on in our lives and make us happy. Without these things, life wouldn't be the same

But that's the life of us teenagers and what some of us have on our minds today.

Marne Voices Speak Out

What item would you never leave at home without and why?

"My cellphone because everything is wrapped around technology and all my information can be received from my cell phone."

Anthony Jackson
Retired Soldier



"Cellphone. In case of Emergency."

Sherica Snowden
Spouse



"Wallet. It has everything about me inside – my credit card, ID, drivers license and phone numbers."

Staff Sgt. Kenneth Pereira
HHC, 4HBCT



"Drivers license. In case you get stopped, you're out of luck."

Master Sgt. Kent A. Smith
188 Inf. Bde.



"Cell phone. I can always contact someone, and they can always contact me."

Sgt. David Filiatre
473rd QM Co.



"On a typical day, I wouldn't leave home without my dogs."

Lisa Taitt
Operations Assistant, Pet Boarding



Voice your opinion!
Write a letter to the editor!

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Marne TV & The Frontline
Attn: The Frontline, Editor
112 Vilseck Rd., Suite 109
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stewfrontline@conus.army.mil

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visit www.stewart.army.mil

The Frontline

112 Vilseck Rd., Suite 109
Building. 419
Ft. Stewart, Ga. 31314

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3RD INFANTRY DIVISION COMMANDER MAJ. GEN. TONY CUCOLO
GARRISON COMMANDER COL. KEVIN W. MILTON

3rd ID PAO — Maj. Jeff Allen
3rd ID NCOIC — Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs
3rd ID staff writer — Sgt. Joseph McAtee
3rd ID staff writer — Spc. Michael Adams
1st Bde. NCOIC — Sgt. Jonathon Jobson
1st Bde. staff writer — Pfc. Jared Eastman
2nd Bde. NCOIC — Sgt. Jason Stadel
2nd Bde. staff writer — Spc. Dustin Gautney
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3rd Bde. NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Natalie Hendrick
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3rd Sust. Bde. staff writer — Spc. Gaelen Lowers
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4th Bde. staff writer — Spc. Amanda McBride

Avn. Bde. NCOIC — Sgt. 1st Class Kim Green
Avn. Bde. staff writer — Spc. Monica Smith

Garrison PAO — Rich Olson
Command Information Officer — Jim Jeffcoat

Editorial/Design Staff
Managing Editor — Jessica Obermeyer
Public Affairs Specialist — Jennifer Hartwig
Public Affairs Specialist — Randy Murray
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Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs
Hunter Army Airfield PAO — Steven Hart
Assistant PAO — Nancy Gould
Public Affairs Specialist — Kaytrina Curtis

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FAMILY MATTERS

Preparing Families and Soldiers for deployment

This campaign from Frontline staff and subject matter experts will provide information regarding deployment preparation for our Soldiers and Families. Throughout the next several months. Topics will include: financial services, vehicle storage, Family care, behavioral health, recreational services, and more.

Respite Care offers Families valuable rest

Lynda Purcell
Army Community Service

As our Army Families prepare for deployment, everyone is coping with the added stress of knowing that there will soon be one less adult to help run the household.

For those who are responsible for the regular care of persons with disabilities, the added responsibility can be overwhelming.

The Army's Exceptional Family Member Program offers respite care to give eligible Families, particularly now during deployment cycles, the opportunity to take a temporary rest period when it's needed. Care may be

provided in the Family's home or other settings such as special needs camps and enrichment programs.

Eligibility for the Respite Care Program is based on EFMP enrollment and the medical or educational condition of the Family Member requiring care. Qualifying Families are eligible to receive up to 40 hours of funded EFMP respite care monthly for each certified Family Member and can receive up to \$45 per hour for care.

Stewart-Hunter currently has over 2,600 Family Members enrolled in EFMP.

During fiscal years 2007 and 2008, Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Command received \$8.2 million in supplemental funds for EFMP respite care. In Fiscal Year 2009, respite care is included in the base operating funds for Army Community Service and is no longer funded by supplemental funds.

The U.S. Army Installation Management Command published revised guidelines for use of Fiscal Year 2009 EFMP respite care funds on June 11 to further standardize and expedite service delivery Army-wide. These guidelines will become effective Aug. 3.

To determine allowable respite care hours and cost per month, the ACS staff will use the Family Services Needs

Matrix (matrix is updated as the EFM condition changes or annually, whichever comes first).

A national network of respite care providers will be accessible through an IMCOM contract with Alignstaffing.

"Special needs care is around the clock," said EFMP Program Manager Mavis Crowell. "When a Family has a special-needs child or adult, respite care provides a break for the primary caregiver."

Families apply for the Respite Care Program at their local Army Community Service EFMP Office. For more information, call 315-6816 at Hunter or 767-5058/5059 at Stewart.

Staying 'sane' during deployments

Army Community Service
Family Advocacy Program

Knowing that separation during deployment isn't easy, the Frontline will provide weekly "tried and true" ways to help you get through your loved one's absence.

1. Join your unit's Family Readiness Group for support and friendship, and be among the first to learn of any noteworthy news!
2. Enroll in an educational program (certificate or degree), or take some free classes through ACS.
3. Take up a hobby- rollerblading . . . or quilting . . . or antiquing; whatever brings you inner happiness, and do it shamelessly!
4. Begin a new fitness routine.
5. Be an everyday hero by volunteering to help out in your community.

Please share your thoughts!

Do you have a suggestion on how to stay "sane" while your loved one is deployed? You can include your name or submit an anonymous suggestion to stewfrontline@conus.army.mil with the subject line: "SUPPORT"

DEPLOYMENT

MP

from Page 1A

"The Warriors are trained and ready for this deployment. They are confident and competent," said Lt. Col. Henshaw. "The 293rd is trained and dedicated to the Warrior Ethos and the Army values. These men and women understand the nobility of service and practice it every day."

The Soldiers of the 293rd have a lot of expectations put on them and an even harder work schedule to look forward to, he said.

"These warriors will be working on the front lines to strengthen security in Afghanistan, often putting in 18-hour days drafting curriculums that teach squads and patrols in the new Afghan police the philosophies and principles of democratic policing and human rights," said Lt.

Col. Henshaw.

The 293rd are not the only Soldiers around the world contributing to the spread of democracy and freedom, he said.

There are Soldiers standing guard, helping preserve the peace, providing the best defense against tyranny and injustice in more than 120 countries around the world.

"Next week, (the) Warriors will join those Soldiers in the fight against terrorism," said Lt. Col. Henshaw.

"I would like to thank all these heroes for their service and willingness to answer the call to duty. I and this battalion will think about you every day until you all return home safely. You are in our prayers and in our thoughts."



Spc. Gaelen Lowers

Chasity Varnell embraces her husband, Spc. Eric Varnell, 293rd MP Co., 385th MP Bn. as his unit departs for a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan.

SPARTANS

from Page 1A



Pfc. Gregory Gieske

Sergeant Major John McGlinchey, HHC, 2nd HBCT, 3rd ID, throws a ruck sack in the back of a transport truck behind 2nd Brigade Headquarters, readying the first wave of Soldiers from 2HBCT deploying to the National Training Center to set up life support for the main body preparing to move, July 23.

Staff Sergeant Jose Benavidez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd HBCT, 3rd ID, said that having the Soldiers use their list to pack the bags served as excellent training.

"The list that the Soldiers are using tell them exactly what equipment to load in their ruck sacks and duffle bags. This is the same list (we will) use when we deploy to Iraq. Now, that they've done it once already, it won't be such a challenge when it is actually time to leave for Iraq," he said. "They'll be used to it."

At the Mower Processing Center, July 23, Spartan Soldiers received various immunizations needed for deployment, along with dental, optometry, and hearing screenings.

They also handled all legal and financial concerns that needed to be tended

before deployment.

Specialist Paul Fry, Troop B, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry, 2nd HBCT, 3rd ID, said this part of the preparation definitely makes the whole deployment easier.

"Making sure you are healthy and your body is combat-ready is important before heading to NTC and Iraq," said Spc. Fry.

The specialist said this tour will be his second deployment to Iraq.

"I've been to Iraq before so I know how much the training and preparation we've done within the brigade will come in handy while we're down range. Knowing everything is squared away, and the fact that we've been trained well gives Soldiers peace of mind," he said.

Exercises at NTC are scheduled to last approximately one month for the Spartan Soldiers.

Town Hall scheduled for 5:30 p.m, Aug 6, Previous issues addressed

The next combined Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Town Hall meeting will be 5:30 p.m., Aug. 6 at Club Stewart and the Hunter Club. Community members are invited to e-mail questions and concerns to Donna.I.Finney@conus.army.mil or call in questions at 767-7625 during the meeting. Previous Town Hall questions and answers are listed below.

Q: *There is a piece of broken playground equipment with a spring and base exposed at Hero and Austin Roads.*

BBC Update: Playground piece was removed on May 15.

Q: *Wilson Acres has a major flooding problem. The kitchen floods when it rains hard. Housing says they cannot do anything about it.*

BBC/DPW Updates: DPW will continue to monitor the existing drains until a new drain can be installed.

New drain completion date is November 2009.

Q: *Liberty Woods has beautiful yards, lots of grass and flowers while other housing areas have yards mostly of sand, why? Ants are a bigger problem in sand.*

BBC Update: The housing areas are going through a fertilization process to bring back the grass that is dormant in the sand. We have achieved some results with this method. The residents can call the work order desk to have their yard treated for ants.

Q: *What about ants in the play areas? Will BBC take care of those areas?*

BBC Update: Playgrounds are treated for ants. When ants are identified as being an issue, residents can call in a work order for the common areas and playgrounds. BBC checks the playgrounds weekly.

Q: *Is maintenance aware of the two to three day turn-around for pest control orders? We have been waiting much longer.*

BBC Update: If anyone waits longer than two or three days for a pest appointment, please notify the management office at 408-2460. The pest company will bring in additional people to spray to take care of our residents.

Q: *Mosquitoes are terrible in the housing areas, especially Eisenhower Village and South Bryan Village.*

DPW Update: We have increased spraying to every Wednesday evening at sunset. The sampling numbers for the last two weeks have shown significant decrease in mosquito population numbers. DPW will continue to spray and monitor the situation until the conclusion of the mosquito season in November.

Q: *If you have satellite instead of cable, you cannot get Marne TV.*

Public Affairs Update: Marne TV, channel 16 in Stewart-Hinesville area and channel 7 in Hunter-Savannah area are accessible via cable line only. It is not accessible by satellite. Residents who subscribe to a satellite television service cannot receive Marne TV through satellite because the Marne TV signal is only sent via cable.

Q: *We need more bike paths on Fort Stewart. Many Soldiers ride bikes, not just kids. It is easy to get run over on Gulick Ave.*

Former garrison commander, Col. Todd Buchs said the Garrison would look at the issue. Usually bike paths are from one area of post to another (Hero Road being replaced going into the housing areas). In addition, the transit system Hinesville is starting in November will help this issue.

DECAL

from Page 1A

The person who is applying for the registration must personally visit the office. Documents that person will need to bring include a valid driver's license, current vehicle registration, current proof of insurance, and a valid identification card.

If you're new to Stewart-Hunter, you must register your vehicle here no more than five working days after in-processing, even if you have a valid DoD decal from another installation.

If you buy a new vehicle, you have five working days to obtain the vehicle registration after receiving your state registration and license plate.

Retirees and their Family Members, and Surviving Spouses and the children of deceased military members who possess valid military ID cards may also register their vehicles.

Decals are normally issued for long-term registrants, typically over one year. The regis-

tration consists of a blue-and-white DD Form 2220 tab, a colored Fort Stewart-HAAF identifier tab, and a one-part expiration date tab with the month on top and the year on the bottom. Vehicles with decals may use any open gate or lanes. Registration of any commercial company vehicle is not permitted. Specific entitlement to register is reviewed on an ongoing basis and further information is available at any of the Vehicle Registration Offices.

DPW transitions to new maintenance contractor

Randy Murray

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield's Directorate of Public Works is transitioning to work with a new maintenance contractor, according to Wilton Bradley, DPW contracting officer. Bradley said Tsay/Ferguson and Williams will take over operation and maintenance for Stewart-Hunter from VT Griffin, beginning Aug. 1.

"(Tsay/Ferguson and Williams) will be responsible for maintenance of all real property facilities here at Stewart and Hunter, which includes all buildings except Family housing, which is maintained by Balfour Beatty Communities," Bradley explained. "They'll also maintain post infrastructure, which includes underground utilities, water lines, sewer and natural gas, and they'll be responsible for roads and grounds maintenance, which includes tank trails and training areas."

Bradley said the new contractor would not be responsible for grounds keeping services such as grass cutting. They would, however, begin

work with all new maintenance equipment, particularly heavy equipment like bulldozers.

"We're planning for a transparent move from one contractor to another," said Michael Pincince, project manager for Tsay/Ferguson and Williams, repeating what Bradley said about a smooth transition. "The only thing the installation should see is a change of names."

Pincince climbed on one of company's newly arrived bulldozers to show off its "TFW" logo, which the Stewart-Hunter community will begin seeing on heavy equipment and service vehicles, starting this Saturday.

"This particular contract is a joint venture of two companies," explained Larry Ruggley, operations manager with Tsay/Ferguson and Williams. "Two separate companies came together to fill the requirements for this contract."

Ruggley said Tsay is a company located in San Juan Pueblo, N.M., and Ferguson and Williams is a company based in Huntsville, Ala. Ruggley will be returning to New Mexico in a



Randy Murray

Michael Pincince, project manager with Tsay/Ferguson and Williams, proudly sits near the "TFW" logo on one of the new bulldozers his company is providing Stewart-Hunter as part its operation and maintenance contract that begins Aug. 1.

few months or as soon as the transition is complete.

Bradley said that except for a few new faces in management, the same employees will continue to be seen

performing maintenance on building, roads and infrastructure. The operation and maintenance contract with Tsay/Ferguson and Williams is for 10 years, he said.

TDD, TTY offer emergency services to Stewart-Hunter

Directorate of Emergency Services

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield 911 Center is equipped to handle Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf calls to support disabled individuals within our community with their emergency needs — be they requests for medical, fire or law enforcement assistance.

Dialing 9-1-1 is the most familiar and effective way Americans have of finding help in an emergency. The Americans with Disabilities Act requires all Public Safety Answering Points to provide direct, equal access to their services for people with disabilities. As of 1993, the American with Disabilities Act required all telephone companies to provide telecommunications relay services. TTY stands for Text

Telephone, telephone typewriter or teletypewriter. It is also sometimes called a TDD or Telecommunication Device for the Deaf. TTY is the more widely accepted term as TTYs are used by many people, not just people who are deaf.

A TTY is a special device that lets people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired use the telephone to communicate by allowing them to type messages back and forth instead of talking and listening. A TTY is required at both ends of the conversation in order to communicate. A TDD is an electronic device for text communication via a telephone, used when one or more of the parties has hearing or speech difficulties. The typical TDD is a device about the size of a small laptop computer with a QWERTY keyboard

and small screen to display typed text electronically. The text is transmitted live via a telephone line to a compatible device that uses a similar communication protocol, so that a deaf person can communicate. There are also "carry-over" services, enabling people who can hear but cannot speak ("hearing carry-over," a.k.a. "HCO"), or for people who cannot hear but are able to speak ("voice carry-over," a.k.a. "VCO") to use the telephone.

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield 911 Center conducts TDD/TTY training for all dispatchers and call takers to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for providing direct and equal access to emergency services for people with disabilities within our community. Currently, 911 operators are using a computer -

assisted course, which simulates real TDD/TTY emergency calls. The course covers the Americans with Disabilities Act, the handicapped community, TDD equipment, call recognition, call handling, protocol, call transfer procedures, TDD callbacks, telephone relay service calls, and hands-on practice.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Stewart-Hunter community will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in our services, programs, or activities. Individuals who use the TDD will be provided direct access to Emergency 911 services. The 911 Branch will provide telephone emergency services to individuals with disabilities that are as effective as those provided to others.

Welcome Back to School!

Post, BoE partner for new school

Both military and civilian students will attend new school inside installation's gates

Lauren Hunsberger
Coastal Courier

As part of a collaborative effort, the Liberty County Board of Education is partnering with Fort Stewart to build a new, public middle school on post. Although the project's timeline once was uncertain, plans are now progressing quickly.

"We're building this school for all of our children," chairmen Lily Baker said. "This is being built for military children and for civilian children. It's a school for all our children."

The approximately 135,000-square-foot school will be the county's fourth middle school and will accommodate about 900 students. The \$20 million school is slated to open in fall 2010.

The project was almost halted when news spread in June that the 5th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, which was supposed to be stationed at Fort Stewart, was not coming after all. However, Superintendent Dr. Judy Scherer recommended the project should move forward for a number of reasons.

"We needed to take a step back and look at the construction. We've looked at the numbers and the investments we've already made," she said. "We have a sufficient number of students to justify building the school. However, the funding efficiency is not the best."

Before they found out the 5th HBCT wasn't coming, Scherer said the BoE had invested about \$316,000 in preconstruction costs.

Scherer said help with funding is available, but she is still looking at and researching all possibilities.

Also, since Fort Stewart officials say there are still troops coming to the area and because local schools are currently near capacity, building a new school still seemed logical to most board members.

"We're already into this and our middle schools are overcrowded already," board member Becky Carter said.



Scherer



Baker

Three elementary schools on post

Young children on Fort Stewart attend one of the three Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools on post:

Fort Stewart Schools
376 Davis Ave.,
Building 5605
Fort Stewart, GA 31315
Superintendent:
Vacant as of July 2009
Phone: 369-6691
Fax: 876-8417

Brittin Elementary
Principal: Joseph Motolenich
Home of the Knights
2772 Hero and Austin roads
Phone: 368-3324, 368-7514

Diamond Elementary
Principal: Linda Kidd
Home of the Gators
482 Davis Ave.
Phone: 876-6094, 876-6202

Kessler Elementary
Principal: Carol Kipp-Caldwell
Home of the Eagles
1127 Austin Road
Building 7560
Phone: 368-3598

assigned permanent living quarters on Fort Stewart are eligible to enroll in Fort Stewart schools. Most on-post elementary students walk to school, except those residing in the guest house and designated housing areas.

Registration of new students occurs at the school the child will attend. The children of Soldiers who live off post attend Liberty County schools.

Children in grades 7-12 living on post attend the nearby Liberty County schools and are taken to and from school by the Liberty County School Bus System. Children living on Fort Stewart in grades 7-8 attend Midway Middle School.

High school students are divided between Bradwell and Liberty County High School, depending upon location of residence on post.



School Health Screening

August 22
Winn Army Community Hospital

Children ages 4 and older entering the Georgia school system for the first time must complete a school health screening. Screenings are by appointment only between 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Scheduling closes 1 p.m., Aug. 20.

Screenings include:
Hearing tests
Vision tests
Dental exams
Immunizations
Sports Physical

Please turn in all medical records and a copy of your shot record no later than Aug. 9. This will help expedite the process and reduce waiting time.



Drive Safely! Please watch out for children on their way to school!

When Do Children and Teens Need Vaccinations?

Age	HepB Hepatitis B	DTaP/Tdap Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	Hib Haemophilus influenzae type b	Polio	PCV Pneumococcal conjugate	RV Rotavirus	MMR Measles, mumps, rubella	Varicella Chickenpox	HepA Hepatitis A	HPV Human papilloma-virus	MCV4 Meningococcal conjugate	Influenza
Birth	✓											
2 months	✓ (1-2 mos)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
4 months	✓ ¹	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
6 months		✓	✓ ²		✓	✓ ²						
12 months												
15 months	✓ (6-18 mos)	✓ ⁴ (15-18 mos)	✓ (12-15 mos)	✓ (6-18 mos)	✓ (12-15 mos)		✓ (12-15 mos)	✓ (12-15 mos)	✓✓ (2 doses given 6 mos apart at age 12-23 mos)			
18 months							Catch-up ⁵	Catch-up ⁵				
19-23 months		Catch-up ⁵	Catch-up ⁵ (to 5 years)	Catch-up ⁵	Catch-up ⁵ (to 5 years)							
4-6 years		✓		✓			✓	✓				
7-10 years	Catch-up ⁵	Catch-up ⁵							Catch-up ⁵			
11-12 years		✓ Tdap		Catch-up ⁵			Catch-up ⁵	Catch-up ⁵		✓✓✓ (females only) ⁶		
13-18 years		Catch-up ⁵ (Tdap/Td)								Catch-up ^{5,6}	Catch-up ^{5,7}	✓ ³ (given each fall or winter to children ages 6 mos-18 yrs)

1. Your infant may not need a dose of HepB at age 4 months depending on the type of vaccine that your healthcare provider uses.
2. Your infant may not need a dose of Hib vaccine or RV vaccine at age 6 months depending on the type of vaccine that your healthcare provider uses.
3. One dose is recommended for most people. Children younger than age 9 years who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time, or who received only 1 dose in the previous season (if it was their first vaccination season), should receive 2 doses spaced at least 4 weeks apart this season.
4. This dose of DTaP may be given as early as 12 months if it has been 6 months since the previous dose and you think you might not return for more shots by the time your child is age 18 months.
5. If your child's vaccinations are delayed or missed entirely, they should be given as soon as possible.
6. All girls and women age 11 through 26 years should be vaccinated with 3 doses of HPV vaccine, given over a 6-month period. (Girls as young as age 9 years may be vaccinated.)
7. If you have a teenager who is enrolling in college and planning to live in a dormitory and hasn't previously been vaccinated against meningococcal disease, they should be vaccinated now.

Please note: Some children may need additional vaccines. Talk to your healthcare provider.



Education Matters

Post 9-11 GI BILL Web sites announced

The Post 9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33, is a non-contributory benefit (no up-front payment required by Soldiers) for those who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11 2001. The Veterans Administration Web site at www.gibill.va.gov provides in-depth eligibility information and a link to the on-line application. Individuals currently eligible for benefits under the Montgomery GI BILL-Active Duty or other similar programs can continue under their program or make the decision to transfer to the Post 9/11 GI Bill. However, that choice is irrevocable so it will not be possible to switch back to the previous VA benefit program. It is recommended that an individual research the differences by going to www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/Benefit_Comparison_Chart.htm#911amount.

The newest, most anticipated feature of the Post 9/11 program is the possibility of transferring the benefits to Family Members. However Army personnel must commit to at least 10 years of service. See www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/Transfer.htm for eligibility requirements. To make the transfer the Soldier must use a common access card and log into www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB. The unit career counselor is the certifying official for enlisted personnel. Officers should consult with their appropriate officer branch. When approved, the Family Member completes the VA Form 1990-E on <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>. If you have questions after researching these websites, call 888-442-4551 (888-GI-BILL-1).

Free certification available to Soldiers

The pilot Army Vocational/Technical Soldier Program will fund up to \$4,500 to enroll in non-college degree courses that teach skills tailored for in-demand career fields with certification and licen-

sure exams related to those professions. Soldiers and officers serving on active duty, to include National Guard and Reserve Soldiers on extended active duty, may acquire technical, vocational, or advanced training and re-training.

Several hundred courses are offered for both in-class and on-line programs but must be selected from the schools listed at www.hrc.army.mil/site/education/VOTEC_Program.html and cannot exceed 18 months. In addition, Soldiers can use the AVOTEC Program to pay for Certification/Licensure.

Registration for this program is available through Sept. 30. All information and enrollment steps can be found at the Web site above. Soldiers must have an active account in GoArmyEd to enroll in AVOTEC. Contact your Army Education Center for access to the GoArmyEd Portal. AVOTEC may be used in conjunction with traditional TA, but the combined cost of both programs cannot exceed \$4,500.

Funding now available to spouses

The Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts Program is now called "MyCAA" and is for all military spouses of active duty and activated Guard and Reserve service members worldwide.

This centralized, virtual program will provide counseling and funding up to \$6,000, to assist with licensure, certification or education opportunities leading to portable employment opportunities; trade programs or college degrees, including the Spouse to Teachers initiative.

You may use the school of your choice, either selecting classroom or on-line delivery. All on-post and most area schools participate. See the list of our on-post colleges below.

This process is all done on-line and by phone with Military One Source 1-800-342-9647. For complete details and to initiate an account, click on

<https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa> (see FAQ's).

College registration now open

The upcoming Fall I term dates both on-post and distance learning classes are listed below. Some courses are offered during the day. Please contact the college directly for course schedules and enrollment information.

Central Texas College – 767-2070/ Hunter Airfield, 315-4090, Aug. 10 - Oct. 3.

Columbia College – 767-5336/ Hunter Army Airfield, 352-8635, Aug. 10 - Oct. 3.

Embry Riddle – 767-3930/ Hunter Army Airfield, 352-5252, Aug. 10 - Oct. 3.

Webster University – 767-5357/ Hunter Army Airfield, 354-0033, Aug. 17 - Oct. 15.

AMU to visit Hunter/Stewart

A representative from American Military University/American Public University will meet with current or prospective students from 9-12 a.m., Aug 5 at the Hunter education center.

He will also be at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center lobby from 1-4 p.m. the same day. You may reach the Buddy Maertens by calling (803) 865-9786 or fmaertens@apus.edu. Explore www.amu.apus.edu for additional information.

University of Maryland to visit

A representative from University of Maryland University College will be in the lobby Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug 11. For more information, call Phyllis McGhee, 706-207-1407 or visit www.umuc.edu.

New GI Bill transfer options to take effect August 1

Rob McIlvaine
FMWRC Public Affairs

Although the Post 9/11 GI Bill is not effective until Aug. 1, servicemembers may submit a request to transfer benefits to their spouses and children now.

“Transferability of Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits has been the most requested initiative we receive from our servicemembers, and we believe it will assist us in retaining highly qualified military personnel.” Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy Bill Carr said.

Career servicemembers on active duty or in the selected reserve who are eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill may be entitled to transfer all or a portion of their unused Post 9/11 GI Bill entitlement to one or more Family Members, Aug. 1.

Defense officials are advising servicemembers to transfer at least a month's worth of GI Bill benefit to every dependent before they leave service. This will lock in an opportunity to change the number of months transferred at a later time.

Any Family Member not approved for transferability before a servicemember retires or separates will be denied the opportunity forever, unless the servicemember re-enters service.

Likewise, veterans who remarry or have more children after leaving service will not be able to transfer GI Bill benefits to new Family Members.

“It’s recommended that Soldiers add all Family members as potential beneficiaries of their Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. Once a Soldier has retired or separated from the Army, they can no longer add new Family Members as potential beneficiaries,” said Bob Clark, the DoD’s assistant director for accession policy and military personnel policy.

In addition to receiving tuition, for students attending school more than half the time, the Post 9/11 GI Bill also pays housing costs, up to a rate equivalent to the Basic Allowance for Housing rate for a sergeant with dependents in the ZIP code where the school is located.

Students are also entitled to a yearly stipend of up to \$1,000 to cover the cost of books and supplies, and students from highly rural areas who are transferring to a school may also be entitled to a one-time payment of \$500.

Soldiers can elect to transfer benefits to Family Members beginning June 29, through the Transferability of Educational Benefits Web site at www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB.

The Department of Veterans Affairs

Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefits

Soldiers who have served less than the time required to earn 100 percent of the benefit under the Post 9/11 GI Bill may receive benefits at a prorated amount. The amount of active service that members have after 9/11 determines what percentage of benefits they can receive under the Post 9-11 GI Bill.

Time in Service	Percentage of Maximum Benefit Payable
At least 36 months	100%
At least 30 continuous days on active duty and must be discharged due to service-connected disability	100%
At least 30 months, but less than 36 months	90%
At least 24 months, but less than 30 months	80%
At least 18 months, but less than 24 months	70%
At least 12 months, but less than 18 months	60%
At least 06 months, but less than 12 months	50%
At least 90 days, but less than 6 months	40%

administers the "Post 9/11 GI Bill," eligibility, benefit levels and application procedures can be found at the VA Web site.

School Liaison Office advocate for parents, students

Randy Murray
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Starting a new school year can be tough, especially for a military child just arriving from another installation and previous Department of Defense school or state school system. Making new friends, adjusting to new teachers and sometimes new academic standards can be stressful. Fort Stewart’s School Liaison Office is there to help.

“Our big focus is transitioning students and helping reduce stressors,” said David Smith, Youth Education Support Services. “We’re here to help students adjust to a new school environment.”

Smith said his office is involved in education-related activities, including a Future Leaders Conference for high school students, training opportunities for area teachers and counselors, High Adventure Camp for teens and, scheduled for Aug. 1, a Kids on the Move, Dolphin Watching Trip.

Inza Downing, School Liaison Officer, provides direct assistance to both parents and student looking for school-related information and resources. She works with on-post school teachers and administrators, Liberty County School Superintendent Dr. Judy Scherer, and will soon be working with the newly appointed South Carolina/Fort Stewart/DoDDS-

Cuba District School Superintendent, Dr. Samantha Ingram.

Downing describes herself as an advocate for students and their parents with school related problems, providing information and resources students need to succeed in school.

Both Downing and Smith were eager to talk about a new resource available to military students to help them hone up their math, science and English skills. The online tutor program is available through Child, Youth and School Services and is designed to provide a real person tutor for elementary, middle and high school students who’ve fallen behind in key academic areas.

“This tutoring service is free and 24-hour accessible,” said Downing. “Sometimes military children get behind in (math, science or reading/writing skills) because of frequent moves, and sometimes there’s just a difference in academic standards from state to state that sometimes causes students to need a tutor to help them catch up. This is a great service for them.”

Downing said the three on-post schools serve about 2,000 students, pre-kindergarten through 6th grade. She encourages parents of students attending on-post schools to come to Open House, from 3-5 p.m, Aug. 4 at Diamond, Kessler and Brittin Elementary

Schools. The first day of school is Aug. 6.

A partial school supply list for Fort Stewart schools includes the following:

- a book bag without wheels
- notebook paper (wide ruled; grades 1-6))
- #2 wooden pencils (grades 1-6)
- #2 large primary (pre-K and kindergarten)
- Crayons (16-24 per box; pre-K through 3rd grade)
- Colored pencils (grades 4-6)
- Plastic pocket folder (3-prong; kindergarten through 4th grade)
- 2-inch, 3-ring binder (pre-school/child care)
- Pencil bag (kindergarten through 6th grade)
- 3 composition notebooks (pre-school/child care and 2-6th grade)
- 2 primary composition notebooks (kindergarten and 1st grade)
- Block erasers (kindergarten through 6th grade)
- Glue sticks
- Kinder mat (kindergarten)

Parents wanting a complete school supply list, information about school health screenings and sports physicals, or information about the online tutor program can come by the School Liaison Office at Fort Stewart, building 443, call 767-6533 or go to www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss_tutor.

ASK THE JUDGE: Buying Car Insurance (Part 2)

Capt. Scott C. Reitor
Legal Assistance Office

In Part 1 of this article, you learned what car, truck, or motorcycle insurance coverage is required in Georgia and what coverage may be required by your auto loan lender. There are many other types of coverage available beyond the minimum though, and each insurance company will offer a different selection of these 'optional' services. Below is a list of some of these types of coverage. Consult your insurance company to find out what is available.

Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Bodily Injury:

As the name implies, UM pays when an at-fault party doesn't have insurance or doesn't have enough insurance. Most states limit the UM coverage you can carry to the maximum amount of Bodily Injury coverage you carry. So if you want \$100,000 in UM coverage, you will also have to carry \$100,000 in BI coverage. You may be able to choose whether your coverage runs concurrently with the other person's BI coverage or added to it. With all the uninsured and underinsured drivers on the road, you should have as much UM coverage as you can afford.

Uninsured Motorist Property Damage:

This type of insurance is only available in certain states. If the person who hit your car does not have enough (or any) insurance to pay for the damages he or she caused to your property, UMPD will cover it. The right amount of UMPD to have is the amount it would cost to replace your vehicle and its contents if you are hit by someone with no insurance. Paying for more than this is a waste of your money. You may also not need UMPD if you carry Comprehensive and Collision coverage.

Medical Payments Coverage:

Med Pay coverage pays for injuries you suffer in a collision, regardless of who is at fault. Frequently, Med Pay will also cover anyone who is in your car and under some policies, anyone who lives with you.

Custom Parts and Equipment/Accessory Coverage:

CPE pays for all the extras you add to your car after you drive it home from the dealership. If you have spent thousands of dollars on custom wheels, stereo equipment, upholstery or any other customization, this coverage steps in when your basic coverage doesn't pay.

Roadside Assistance:

The core benefits of Roadside Assistance are towing to the nearest repair shop, a jump start for a dead battery, enough gas to reach the next gas station, and flat tire repair. Some car manufacturers offer Roadside Assistance as part of new vehicle warranties, so be careful not to duplicate your coverage.

Rental Car Reimbursement:

Your car was damaged in a crash and now it's at the stop being fixed. How do you get to work while your car is being repaired? Rental Car Reimbursement will reimburse your rental car expenses.

Your insurance company is the best source of knowledge about what kinds of coverage are available and how much you need. You will have to balance that knowledge with the fact that they are trying to sell you something and then make the best decision for your individual situation. Some good things to keep in mind are:

- GAP and Roadside Assistance may be cheaper if you buy them from your loan company.
- If you drive an older car that is paid off, it may not make financial sense to carry Collision and Comprehensive coverage. Compare how much the coverage costs you to the amount your insurance will pay (minus your deductible) if your car is a total loss.
- UM and UMPD protect you if someone with little or no insurance damages your car or causes you injury. You should have as much of this coverage as you can afford.
- Carrying the minimum PD and/or BI can leave you unprotected if you cause a serious accident. If you cause \$100,000 in injuries but only have \$50,000 in coverage, you can be sued for the difference. You could be forced to sell your property and even your home to pay the difference. The more you are worth, the more PD and BI you need.
- Insurance coverage has conditions and exclusions. For example, your vehicle insurance may not cover damage to your truck if you drive it off-road. Always read the fine print.
- Different insurance companies target different demographics. Shop around and get at least 3 quotes before you buy.
- You may want to decrease your coverage while deployed. Talk to your insurance company about how much coverage you need while your car is being stored during a deployment.

The final thing to keep in mind is that insurance is a very personal relationship. Each person has a slightly different situation, so the coverage your friend or neighbor has may not be the right coverage for you.

Spend some time talking to insurance agents, and make them send you everything in writing by mail, fax or e-mail. For more information or assistance with the legal aspects of insurance coverage, make an appointment to speak with a legal assistance attorney.

Fort Stewart, building 621, call 767-8809/8819; Hunter, building 1211, call 315-5115.

JAG officers program offered for active duty officers

The Office of The Judge Advocate General is now accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program. This program is open to active duty commissioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain who wish to attend law school at the government's expense. Applicants must have at least two but not more than six years of total active federal service at the time legal training begins.

Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test. Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager at AHRC, with a copy furnished to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Yvonne Caron-10th Floor), 1777 North Kent Street, Rosslyn, Va. 22209-2194, to be received before Nov. 1.

Interested officers should contact Col. Jonathan C. Guden, staff judge advocate, at 767-2374 for more information.

LEGAL NOTICE

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Necco R. McCraw**, 110th Transportation Company, Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact 2nd Lt. Lovetta L. Tate, 416th Transportation Company, Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409; (912) 315-8650.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. Rodney Wayne Broderson II**, Troop C, 6/8


Cav., 4th IBC, 3rd ID, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314, please contact 1st Lt. Zonie Daniels IV, Alpha Troop, 6/8 Cav., 4IBCT, 3rd ID, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314; (912) 767-4857.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. Michael G. Bielamowicz**, HHC, 3rd Battalion, 160th SOAR (A), Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., 31409, please contact, Capt. Evans,

HHC, 3rd Battalion, 160th SOAR 9A), Hunter AAF, Ga., 31409, phone; (912) 315-7112.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. John A. Lee, Jr.**, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, please contact Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ronald L. Welch, Company B, 26th BSB, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314 at 610-4012.

Call Law Enforcement for stray animals 767-4895 on Stewart or 315-6133 on Hunter



\$1,000 REWARD OFFERED

A reward of \$1,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for an armed robbery, which occurred Oct. 24, 2008 at building 3004, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314.

Anyone having knowledge of the incident, but not wishing to be identified, will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confidentiality.

The payout of cash rewards to military and federal

employees for information leading to a conviction is contingent upon exceptional actions regarding the information provided.

Those with information concerning this matter are encouraged to call the U.S. Army CID office located at Fort Stewart, Ga. at 767-5030, or the Military Police Desk, Fort Stewart, Ga. at 767-4895. The reward expires April 20, 2010.

Aquatic exercise program offered

Splashing with a Purpose takes place at Summer Waves each Monday, Wednesday and Friday as aquatic exercise programs are offered at the water park. Residents and visitors will have the opportunity to get fit with a certified instructor from the Aquatic Exercise Association. Participants will be guided through activities such as swimming laps in the wave pool and walking in the lazy river against the current for a cardio workout. Anyone can take part in the exercise program with a month-long pass for \$50, or a single day pass for \$5. The classes will last one hour per day from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. The Aquatic Exercise programs will run until the end of July. The program may be extended based on the interest of participants. For more information about the aquatic exercise programs at Summer Waves, call 635-2074.

FBCT Group seeking Soldiers

First Battle Command Training Group Army Reserve is currently establishing a detachment in the Fort Jackson area and looking for Soldiers to fill our ranks. We offer the opportunities for promotion while simultaneously enhancing your professional management, training and leadership skills. We have immediate openings for Sgt. through Lt. Col., Military Occupational Specialties and Branch Immaterial, who want to transfer and make a significant contribution to the readiness of our Army. First BCTG conducts CONUS pre- and post-mobilization computer simulation based Battle Command Staff Training (BCST) exercises. We train USAR and ARNG units throughout the southeastern United States in wartime readiness. We offer CONUS mobilization opportunities training and preparing Army Reserve and National Guard units for deployment. Unit benefits include: Fragmented Annual Training and opportunities to travel throughout the southeastern United States. We encourage and support attendance at Army professional development schools.POCs are: 1st Sgt. Larry King at (205) 987-8443, extension 4414 or larry.kingsr@usar.army.mil, Capt. John Walker at (205) 444-5208 or john.r.walker@usar.army.mil, or Lt. Col. Karlos Parker at (205) 444-5163 or karlos.parker@usar.army.mil.

Interim Defense Acquisition Guidebook

The significant policy revisions associated with the re-issuance of DoD Instruction 5000.02 in December 2008 prompted a complete review and revision of the

Defense Acquisition Guidebook content. The revised DAG with all the current functionality, and more (including implementation guidance resulting from the Weapon System Acquisition Reform Act of 2009), will be completed and online several months from now. While that task is being completed, DAU's Web site, <https://acc.dau.mil/dag> provides an Interim DAG with the same business practice and policy content as the final, but with fewer internal and external navigation options. The objective is to provide you with the information you need to manage your programs while the DAG is made more user friendly. Visit <https://acc.dau.mil/dag> to view the Interim Defense Acquisition Guidebook.

Stewart

East 7th Street permanently closed

East 7th St. between French Road and Niles Ave. is permanently closed due to the construction of the new Soldier Family Assistance Center. Detour signs and traffic control devices will be displayed for the duration of the construction. Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area to minimize traffic congestion and to be alert to changes in traffic patterns around the area. Call 228-7451 for more information.

Blood Drive slated at DOL

Directorate of Logistics is hosting a blood drive, 8 a.m. to noon July 31 at building 2916 on Fort Stewart. The American Red Cross is currently operating on emergency supplies and desperately needs donors to meet their requirements. Individuals interested in making an appointment may contact Shala Mapp or Kristy Griffen at 435-0390/0137 or shala.c.mapp@us.army.mil or Kristina.griffen@us.army.mil.

Shop of the Marne hosts Open House

Shop of the Marne will host an Open House 5 p.m. - 9 p.m., Aug. 21. It is a Back to School Blow Out Event and will feature door prizes, drawings, give-aways, new merchandise, discounted merchandise and refreshments. Meet and greet OSC Board Members, browse and shop our unique and handcrafted gift items throughout the store. All proceeds go to "OSC Ways and Means" for the Fort Stewart Army Scholarship Fund. Everyone is invited to come and shop! Call 767-9268 for more information.

Hunter

Billy Mitchell Boulevard closed

Billy Mitchell Blvd. is closed for construction south of its southernmost entrance to Tominac Fitness Center to its intersection with Hickam Blvd. Billy Mitchell Blvd. is also closed at its intersection with William Barksdale Circle.

Hurricane Awareness Briefing slated

Hunter Army Airfield garrison will conduct a Hurricane/Severe Weather Awareness brief for Soldiers, Family Members, Family Readiness Groups and Department of the Army Civilians, today at Hunter Club, building 6015, from 9 - 10 a.m. For information or to schedule a brief for your FRG, Unit or Directorate at Hunter Army Airfield, call Leandre Anderson at 315-6904, or Abraham Howell at 315-5686.

Hunter Gas Kiosk
Grand Opening
8 a.m., Monday

8804 South Perimeter Rd.
(by Rio Gate)

AAFES invites everyone for cake cutting, prizes, wine tasting, drawings, balloon pop for discounts, giveaways, and much more!

ROAD CLOSURE

Beginning 7:30 a.m., July 27 until 5 p.m. on Sept. 14, Troupe Gate (Gate #2) traffic will be reduced to one lane. Subject closure is necessary for the demolition and new construction of the Access Control Point. Detour signs and traffic control devices will be displayed and posted for the closure duration. Motorists are encouraged to avoid this area to minimize traffic congestion and to be alert to changes in traffic patterns around the area. Call Daryl Jackson, Corps of Engineers, at 767-4725 for more information. We appreciate your patience during this construction effort.

Military Star Card to
increase gas discount

AAFES News Release

DALLAS, TEXAS - Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) gas stations worldwide are helping take the pain out of the pump by increasing discounts for drivers using a Military Star(r) Card. Beginning Aug. 8, pumps currently programmed to reflect a discount of three cents per gallon for drivers who pay with a Military Star(r) Card will jump to five cents per gallon. In addition to the everyday nickel discount, AAFES will periodically be offering increased savings opportunities at specified times throughout the year. The first of these promotions, from Aug. 21-23, will provide a 20 cents per gallon discount, up to 20 gallons, for drivers paying with a Military Star(r) Card. "The savings opportunities are going to be unprecedented," said AAFES' Chief Operating Officer Mike Howard. "I'm excited about the exclusive gas savings we're going to offer Military Star(r) cardholders in the coming months." Authorized exchange shoppers can learn more about the benefits available to Military Star(r) cardholders at www.aafes.com.



Balfour Beatty Communities

Stewart

National Watermelon Day

Stop by our Southern Oaks Community for a refreshing snack, Aug. 3 from 2- 4 p.m. While you're there, guess how many watermelon seeds are in the jar. The person with the closest guess will win a whole watermelon of their very own!

Recycle Robot

Bring any items you have at home that can be recycled to the Southern Oaks Community Center to add to our robot, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. , Aug. 5. The more items we have, the better our robot will be!

Neighborhood Huddle

Share your ideas, issues or concerns about your neighborhood with us at the Playground across the street from Brittin Elementary School, 10:30 - 11 a.m., Aug. 12.

Karaoke Night

We'll be having our very first Karaoke night, 5 – 6 p.m., Aug. 20 at the Southern Oaks Community Center.

Dog Days of Summer-

August 26 is National Dog Day, so bring yours by the Southern Oaks Community Center for a goody bag of doggie treats, 1 – 4 p.m, Aug. 27.

Hunter

National Watermelon Day

Stop by the BBC Management Office for a refresh-

ing snack, 2- 4 p.m., Aug. 7. While you're there, guess how many watermelon seeds are in the jar. The person with the closest guess will win a whole watermelon of their very own!

Recycle Robot

Bring any items you have at home that can be recycled to the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office to add to our robot, 2- 3 p.m. , Aug. 11. The more items we have, the better our robot will be!

Neighborhood Huddle

Share your ideas, issues or concerns about your neighborhood with us at the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office, 10:30 - 11 a.m., Aug. 11. This is an opportunity for you to come speak up as a community.

Safety Day

Don't miss out on learning ways to keep your Family safe! DES will be at the Baseball field on N. Perimeter Road (near BBC Community Management Office), 4 – 5 p.m., Aug. 14 with their fire truck, patrol car and smoke house letting everyone take a peek inside. There will be finger print kits, McGruff and more.

Dog Days of Summer

August 26 is National Dog Day, so bring yours by the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office for a goody bag of doggie treats, 1 – 4 p.m., Aug. 18.

Karaoke Night

We'll be having our very first Karaoke night at the BBC Management Office, 5 – 6 p.m., Aug. 28.

U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program advocates for Soldier, Families

Jennifer Scales

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Like marriage vows, the motto of the U. S. Army Wounded Warrior Program, or AW2, takes seriously the focus of care provided to Soldiers and their Families.

The AW2 advocates, associated with the units, are responsible for helping Soldiers in Warrior Transition Units have access to everyone and everything they could possibly need to make their transition smooth by cutting through some of the red tape and helping Soldiers become self-sufficient. Such are the exact sentiments of Terry Lollis, AW2 Advocate for Company A, Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Stewart.

"This is not an eight to five job," said Lollis. "There are times when Soldiers will contact you in the evening, because we may not be able to contact them in the daytime."

Advocates maintain at least a monthly contact, but that is usually for those who require little more. During crisis times for the Soldier, contacts can increase to five to six times per week.

"It is just going to depend upon what is going on in their lives at that time," added Lollis, who serves as advocate for 30 Soldiers.

AW2 advocates can provide assistance with finding and attaining employment, especially if they are going back into the community, Lollis said.

"We can work with the Army Career and Alumni Program and other agencies to try and open doors for our Soldiers. AW2 advocates also help find and get adaptation for homes, such as ramps or bathroom renovations to make life less complicated. We can go direct with the Veteran's Administration to make this happen."

Lollis added that there are many other non-profit organizations out there whom they could contact to help also.

Though she has always been employed in some type of helping field, Lollis finds challenges during this period, especially during this time of war.

"We see so many young men and women coming back home wounded and with injuries. And many of the young people that I work with are the same ages of my children. I feel a lot of empathy."

Lollis said it is a challenge trying to keep Soldiers encouraged as they make this transition.

"Their lives are different now, and it is all about



Nadine Benjamin

Terry Lollis (left), AW2 Advocate for A Co., WTB and Wounded Warrior Staff Sgt. Ronald Stark discuss the various aspects of the AW2 program, one as the provider, the other as the recipient.

accepting a new normal," she said.

One Soldier who bears witness to Lollis' comments is Staff Sgt. Ronald Stark.

Staff Sgt. Stark suffers from Traumatic Brain Injury as a result of an injury during war. He and his wife Katie have three children. Staff Sgt. Stark said just because a Soldier becomes injured, he still has maternal and paternal issues.

"The biggest problem we face is the transition out," Staff Sgt. Stark. "The decision is like when you were 18 and finishing school. Decisions had to be made if you were going to continue in school, get a job, elope, or draw unemployment. The point is it is just as hard for us here."

"Some of us have Families that we need to provide for, not to mention housing and schooling and a job. And that is where the AW2 advocate comes in. They make it smoother," he said.

The AW2 advocate program has been good for Staff Sgt. Stark in allowing him to continue on with his military obligations and therapies.

"Terry has done such things as house hunting and employment searches for me. She is giving me options by being out there doing things for me," he said.

Lollis added that the Stark Family is unique.

"They are proactive. There are other Soldiers out there who need extra assistance because their lives have been impacted by their illness or injury and we stand ready to help them."

Lollis said the program is there for Soldiers and their Families as long as it's needed.

If you know of any Soldier or veteran, who has not been contacted by the AW2, go to the Web site at www.AW2.army.mil, call the nationwide number 800-237-1336, or contact Terry Lollis at 767-3551. AW2 supports the most severely wounded Soldiers from the Global War on Terrorism who have, or are expected to receive, an Army disability rating of 30 percent or greater in one or more specific categories or a combined rating of 50 percent or greater for conditions that are the result of combat or are combat related since Sept. 10, 2001.

Categories of injury include blindness/vision loss, deafness/hearing loss, fatal incurable disease, loss of limb, paralysis/spinal cord injury, permanent disfigurement, post-traumatic stress disorder, severe burns, or traumatic brain injury.

LSB slings mud, recruits potential Soldiers during Operation Ready Recruit

**188th Infantry Brigade
Public Affairs Office**

The second Saturday of the month means J.R. Laird is hosting the Cobbtown mudd bogg in Cobbtown, Ga. Bidders, racers, and spectators from across the nation came out to support the incredible July 11 event.

The 2nd Battalion, 349th Logistics Support Battalion, 188th Infantry Brigade saw the mud bogg event as an opportunity to support the local community and also as an opportunity to recruit qualified personnel to join the active duty Army or Army Reserve. Thus was born Operation Ready Recruit.

In preparation for Operation Ready Recruit, 2/349th Soldiers completed 80 hours of drivers training on the Heavy Equipment Transporter and trained on convoy procedures and engaging the media.

To bolster interests in the Army, the LSB coordinated with units from 3rd Infantry Division and 3rd Sustainment Brigade's, 87th Combat Service Support Battalion to provide one M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank, one M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle, one High Mobility Multi-purpose Vehicle, three HETS, one M923 5-ton truck, and an M1117 Armored Support Vehicle as a static display. Subject

matter experts on the equipment were on hand to answer questions and discuss their experiences in the Army.

Soldiers from 2/349th spoke with numerous prospective candidates from 17 to 41 years of age to join the active duty Army or Army Reserves all while enjoying the sights and sounds of the mud bogging event. Soldiers from 2/349th also partnered with Army Recruiters from the United States Army Recruiting Command to tell the Army story and search for potentially qualified recruits.

"The partnerships between 2/349th, 3rd Infantry Division, 3rd Sustainment Brigade, and USAREC were key to making this even a success," said Lt. Col. Paul Shelton, commander 2/349th. "We'd like to especially thank Sergeant 1st Class Patrick Lowe from the Hinesville, Ga. Recruiting Station, Sergeant 1st Class William Reed from the Vidalia, Ga. Recruiting Station and, of course J.R. Laird for hosting the event," continued Shelton. "This really was a team effort."

LSB Soldiers had a great time interacting with the event patrons, prospective recruits, and watching the mud bidders race down the dirt track. The 2/349th Regiment, 188th Infantry Brigade, left Cobbtown, Ga. with excellent training value and a feeling of accomplishment in conducting Operation Ready Recruit.



188th Inf. Bde. Public Affairs

Sergeant 1st Class William Reed, a recruiter from Vidalia, Ga. speaks with prospective recruits about opportunities within the Army Reserve.

Stewart holds first coin and covenant ceremony

Spc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd Sustainment Bde. Public Affairs

Sergeant Daniel Radcliffe, 293rd Military Police Company, 385th Military Police Battalion, and his wife Pfc. Nicole Radcliffe, also part of the 293rd MP Co., have been married for 11 months.

They have never had to endure a deployment apart, but Sgt. Daniel Radcliffe recently deployed with the 293rd MP Co. for Afghanistan for 12 months, leaving his wife with their 2-month-old daughter, Kiera.

Pfc. Radcliffe shares the fears that most couples face when a deployment comes.

"I'm just afraid because I will be home alone, not able to hear from him," she said. "There will always be that 'what if' thought in my head until I get that first phone call or first email saying, 'Hey, hun, I'm doing ok.'"

Besides personal safety, couples have other fears when their significant other is deployed, including fidelity. This is where the coin and covenant ceremony comes in. The ceremony helps alleviate some of the fears dealing with this issue, said Chap (Maj.) Terry Romine, 3rd Infantry Division Family Life Chaplain.

The coin and covenant ceremony is something that has occurred on other installations, but is completely new to Fort Stewart. The 293rd MP Co. is the first to go through it here, but it won't be the last.

"This was our very first opportunity to perform a coin and covenant kickoff for a deploying company," said Chap. Romine. "The coin and covenant is a program where we are going to try to increase and encourage fidelity for deploying couples, to write out that commitment, exchange that commitment, to encourage them to express that connection, to help them feel closer, be closer so that while they're deployed they can build some resilience in their relationship."

It is designed for every company that is deploying, he continued. He said he wants to make sure that every person

who wants to participate in this ceremony gets the opportunity.

Couples sit back-to-back and pour their emotions out onto a piece of paper about their fears, loves and commitments that they want to make to their partners. Some laughed to themselves as they recounted a favorite moment about their partner while others began to cry with the thought of their husband or wife leaving.

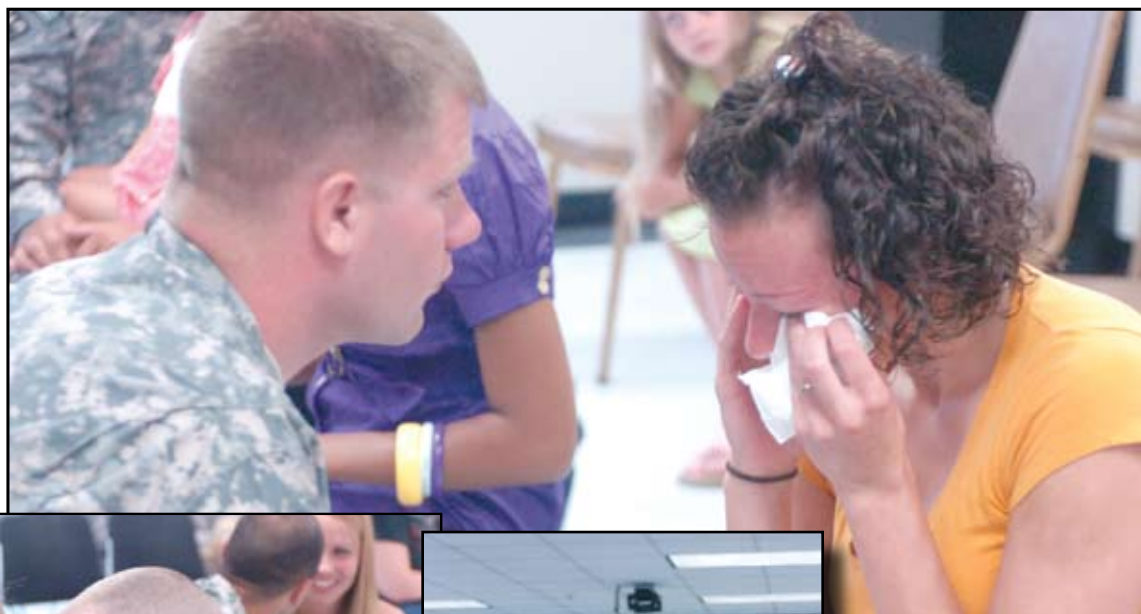
After exchanging their commitment to each other and a brief, private discussion between each couple, they were instructed to pull the small black box out from under their seat and pull out the "Mizpah Coin" inside. The coin is split in two and each person gets a half of the coin. Across the coin is an Old Testament verse of **Genesis 31:49**, which

states *"The LORD watch between you and me, when we are out of one another's sight."*

Sergeant John Pirie, 293rd MP Co., and his wife Lisa have been married for 12 years and been through two deployments already and believe that this ceremony will make this upcoming deployment a little easier to handle, but for first-timers like Sgt. Daniel and Pfc. Nicole Radcliffe,

it is still a challenge.

"Even with the all fears we do have with starting a new Family, this commitment and bond we made today will help lessen the concerns we both have," said Sgt. Daniel Radcliffe. "It's a bond between the two of us, more than just our marriage; it's a bond that says we will be faithful to each other and do everything we can for each other while I'm deployed."



Photos by Spc. Gaelen Lowers

Sgt. John Pirie peeks at his wife's commitment to him during the first ever coin and covenant ceremony on Fort Stewart, July 24. Sgt. Pirie and Lisa have been married 12 years and are about to endure their third deployment.

ABOVE: Rachelle Reimondo cries while listening to Pfc. Randy Reimondo's, her husband and Soldier of the 293rd MP Co., 385th MP Bn., as he reads his commitment to her during the first ever coin and covenant ceremony on Fort Stewart, July 24.

LEFT: Private. Michael Araujo, 293rd MP Co., 385th MP Bn., puts half of the coin around his wife Ashley's neck during the first ever coin and covenant ceremony on Fort Stewart, July 24.

Two 1-3 BSTB Soldiers earn Knowlton Award

Pfc. Jared S. Eastman

1HBCT Public Affairs

Every branch of the Army has its own award, its own way of identifying Soldiers as leaders. These Soldiers exemplify their branch in all aspects, giving other Soldiers a role model to emulate. For the Military Intelligence Branch, this is the Knowlton award, presented to individuals who have contributed significantly to the promotion of Military Intelligence.

First Brigade, 3rd Special Troops Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Sheryl Lyon, and Capt. Jason Buchanan, also of 1-3 BSTB received the Knowlton award, July 22, outside of the 1-3 BSTB Headquarters.

"It takes a certain kind of intelligence leader to train other intelligence Soldiers and combine that integration intelligence into our combined arms operations," said Lt. Col. Michael Marti, Division G2.

The man behind the award, Lt. Col. Thomas Knowlton, was born into a military Family and first served at the age of 15 in the French and Indian War. He also played a pinnacle part in the Battle of Bunker Hill. In 1776, General George Washington promoted Knowlton to lieutenant colonel and ordered him to select an elite group of men to carry out reconnaissance missions. "Knowlton's Rangers" were born, America's first spies and Special Forces unit. This date is also on the modern Army's intelligence service seal and refers to the creation of this group.

"Some of the qualities needed in a Soldier to receive this award is that they're willing and capable of leading Soldiers of all (military occupational specialties) and War Fighting functions on our Army's battlefields," said Lt. Col. Marti. "Someone who lives the Army Values and possesses the technical expertise of their craft and trade and spends time developing their subordinates."

One of the reasons Capt. Buchanan earned his award was his actions in Iraq during the last deployment.

"One of our convoys got attacked during our last deployment," said Cmmmand Sgt. Maj. Lyons to the formation. "When the commanding officer of the convoy failed to command, Capt. Buchanan took charge and shouted orders to the surrounding troops, creating a swift line of defense."

Although established in 1995 by the Military Intelligence Corps Association, the award hasn't changed its standards or requirements.

"I don't see this award evolving over time," said Lt. Col. Marti. "I think the core values are there on whom we want to have the award. So I think the only thing changing over time is that we'll continue to build a long history and lineage."

He said the core values of the Military Intelligence Corps live on in the Knowlton award, which recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to the promotion of Army Intelligence in



Pfc. Jared S. Eastman

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Marti, Division G2, salutes 1-3 BSTB Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Sheryl Lyon as she receives the Knowlton Award, July 22, outside the 1-3 BSTB Headquarters. The Knowlton award is given to Soldiers who exemplify what it means to be a Military Intelligence Soldier.

ways that stand out in the eyes of the recipients, their superiors, subordinates, and peers. These individuals must also demonstrate the highest standards of integrity and moral character, display an outstanding degree of professional competence, and serve the Military Intelligence Corps with distinction. These attributes not only describe an outstanding Intelligence Soldier, but also should be something all Soldiers strive to obtain in their military service, not for the awards, but to serve and be a part something greater than oneself, he said.



The City of Hinesville will conduct its annual festival for
National Night Out • 5 p.m. – 9 p.m., Aug. 1

Come out and have fun with the community and help
"Take A Bite Out Of Crime."

**Team
Stewart**

*For
more
information,
visit the
Frontline
online at*

***www.
stewart.
army.mil***

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